Message Text

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PAGE 01 STOCKH 00984 031115Z

43

ACTION AGR-08

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-07

INR-07 LAB-04 NSAE-00 SP-02 STR-01 TRSE-00 CIEP-01

FRB-03 OMB-01 SIL-01 PA-01 PRS-01 USIA-06 OPIC-03

XMB-02 /071 W

----- 123475

R 031030Z MAR 75

FM AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4051

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY HELSINKI

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY OSLO

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

USMISSION GENEVA

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PASS AGRICULTURE (FITZSIMMONDS)

E.O. 11652: N A

TAGS: ELAB, EAGR, ETRD, SW

SUBJECT: GRAPE AND LETTUCE BOYCOTT

1. SWEDISH TRADE UNIONS ARE RENEWING PRESSURE UPON SWEDISH IMPORTERS TO FORGO PURCHASES OF UFW-BOYCOTTED LETTUCE AND GRAPES. AT MEETING HELD FEBRUARY 25, LO AND TCO REPS REQUESTED IMPORTERS TO "OBLIGE" THEM ON FOLLOWING TWO POINTS: (1) UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE TO HALT IMPORTS OF NON-EAGLE MARKED LETTUCE FOR ONE YEAR; AND (2) NO PURCHASE OF NON-EAGLE MARKED GRAPES NEXT AUTUMN AND RENEWED CONTACT WITH LO AND TCO BEFORE PURCHASE QUESTION HAS BEEN DECIDED FOR SUBSEQUENT SEASON. IMPORTERS WERE ADVISED THAT OTHER MEASURES WOULD BE CONSIDERED UNLESS THEY ACCEPTED PROPOSALS. MARCH 13 WAS SET AS DEADLINE FOR REPLY.

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PAGE 02 STOCKH 00984 031115Z

2. TEAMSTERS HAVE BEEN FAST OFF MARK IN RESPONDING TO LATEST

CHALLENGE. LOCAL PUBLIC RELATIONS FIRM REPRESENTING TEAMSTER INTERESTS HERE IN BOYCOTT BATTLE PROVIDED EMBASSY WITH COPY OF TELEGRAM SENT BY JOE BALLEW WHO HEADED TEAMSTER DELEGATION TO STOCKHOLM LAST OCTOBER (STOCKHOLM 4424, OCTOBER 3, 1974).

PRESUMABLY ACTING ON FIRM'S ADVICE, BALLEW REPORTED THAT IBT HEADQUARTERS HAD MADE CONTACT THROUGH SWEDISH EMBASSY WITH MEMBERS OF SWEDISH TRADE MISSION NOW IN US TO EXPRESS CONCERN OVER LO-TCO MOVES. MESSAGE ALSO REPEATED TEXT OF TELEGRAM SENT BY IBT SECRETARY-TREASURER MURRAY MILLER TO LO PRESIDENT GUNNAR NILSSON AND GENERAL SECRETARY RUNE MOLIN INFORMING THEM OF THIS ACTION AND URGING THEM "TO ENTERTAIN POSSIBLE DIALOGUE ON THIS MATTER PRIOR TO ESTABLISHING FIRM COMMITMENT

THAT COULD HAMPER INTERNATIONAL LABOR RELATIONS." (COMMENT: THIS IS VEILED BUT OBVIOUS REFERENCE TO POSSIBILITY OF IBT COUNTER-BOYCOTT AGAINST SWEDISH EXPORTS TO US THREATENED BY BALLEW DURING VISIT TO STOCKHOLM . STOCKHOLM 4454, OCTOBER 4, 1974).

STRAUSZ-HUPE

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Message Attributes

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Concepts: FRUIT, TRADE, BOYCOTTS, LABOR UNIONS, IMPORTERS

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